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EXCISE

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ACTION IMR-12
INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 INR-10 SS-15 CIAE-00 EB-08 ICA-11
DODE-00 P-01 NSC-05 NSAE-00 COME-00 TRSE-00 PM-05
PA-01 OMB-01 AGR-00 SP-02 SPRS-02 /078 W

R 190845Z MAR 82 ZDK
FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8907
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DEPT PASS AGRICULTURE FOR FULLER, AA; SCHOONOVER, ITP; OR TEA; EC, FAS; AND FREEMAN, OICD
PASS USDOC FOR BEVT
E.O. 12065: NA
TAGS: TAGR, RO
SUBJECT: MEETING WITH MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE MICULESCU

1. AMBASSADOR AND AGRICULTUAL ATTACHE CALED ON DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE MICULESCU ON MARCH 17 TO DELIVER LETTER OF THANKS FROM USDA SECRETARY JOHN BLOCK FOR CONGRATULATIONS RECEIVED. OTHER TOPICS DISCUSSED INCLUDED:

A. APPRECIATION FOR INCREASING TRADE IN AGURICUITURAL PRODUCTS;

B. DESIRE FOR MORE EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF COOPERATOR AND OTHER US PROGRAMS SO AS TO ASSIST GOR DIRECTIVES TO ENHANCE AGRICUITURAL PRODUCTIVITY; AND

C. NEED FOR PERIODIC DISCUSSIONS TO IMPLEMENT OUTSTANDING DATA EXCHANGE WHICH IS PARTICULARLY PERTINENT TO ROMANIA'S REQUESTS FOR CCC FINANCING.

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2. THE MINISTER SAID HE WOULD REPORT THE WARM SENTIMENTS EXPRESSED IN SECRETARY BLOCK'S LETTER TO PRESIDENT CEAUSESCU AND STATED THAT ROMANIAN CONTINUES TO DESIRE EXPANSION OF COOPERATION WITH THE US, INCLUDING EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION. THE MINISTER'S DESIRES FOR IMPROVED COOPERATION CENTERED ON JOINT VENTURES WITH US FIRMS, ON THE MODEL OF PIONEER AND MONSANTO AGREEMENTS; UNIVERSITY SCIENTIST EXCHANGES, SUCH AS PROGRAMS EXISTING WITH NEBRASKA AND IOWA; AND USG SUPPORT FOR ROMANIAN REQUESTS FOR WORLD BANK FINANCING.

B1,A3

4. THE MINISTER INDICATED THAT WHILE US EXPORTS TO ROMANIA INCREASED DURING 1980, ROMANIAN EXPORTS OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS TO THE US DECLINED BECAUSE OF DIFFICULTIES ATTRIBUTED TO SIGNIFICANT INCREASES IN FREIGHT RATES. MORE LUCRATIVE NEARBY MARKETS FOR ROMANIAN PRODUCE WAS PROVIDED AS ANOTHER EXPLANATION

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TO AUTH. ___ REASON(S) A3
RELEASE DENIED ☒ IN PART
FOIA or PCI EXEMPTIONS B1

FOR REDUCED EXPORTS TO THE US DURING 1980. THE MINISTER ALSO CITED THE ANNUAL MEN RENEWAL PROCESS AS AN OBSTACLE TO THE CREATION OF LONG-TERM TRADE WITH US BUSINESS.

5. ON THE QUESTION OF THE DATA EXCHANGE, THE MINISTER SAID THAT ACTION WILL BE TAKEN AND THAT THE MINISTRY PLANNING DIRECTOR WOULD BE A NEW CONTACT FOR PROVIDING GOR AGRICULTURAL DATA.

BLAS

6. IN REFERENCE TO DIRECTIVES OF THE NW AGRICULTURAL POLICY, THE MINISTER REITERATED INFORMATION ALREADY REPORTED THAT EFFICIENCY

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IN ALL LEVELS OF MANAGEMENT WASTO BE IMPROVED, FINANCIAL MOTIVATION INCREASED, AND ORGANIZATION SIMPLIFIED BY A CONCENTRATION ON BASIC PRODUCTION UNITS. HE DID NOT SUGGEST ANY INTRODCTION OF NEW INVESTMENTS NOR SPECIFY THE SOURCE OF "FINANCIAL MOTIVATION" NEEDED TO REALIZE IMMEDIATE PRODUCTIVITY INCREASES.

7. THE MINISTER STATED THAT THE GROWING IMPORTANCE OF COOPERATION WITH US AGRICULTURE WAS EVIDENT BY ASSIGNMENT THIS SPRING OF AN AGRICULTURAL ATTACHE TO EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON. HE REQUESTED USDA ASSISTANCE IN MAKING UNIVERSITY AND INDUSTRY CONTACTS KNOWN TO ATTACHE.

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